
NARCISSUS NOTES

Midwest Region

American Daffodil Society

September 1997

Regional Vice-President Linda Lee Wallpe

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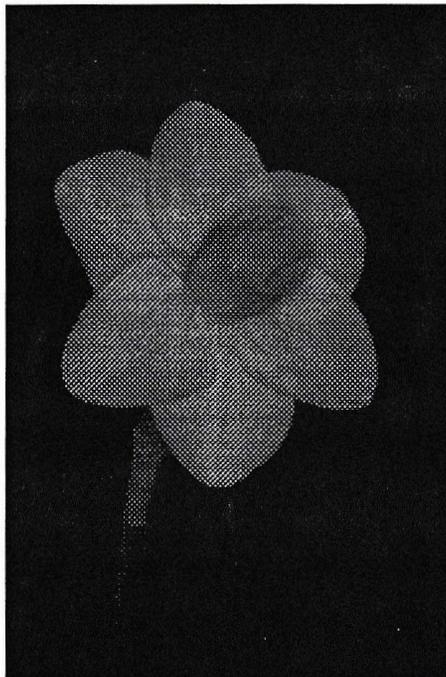
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'Loch Hope'

Photo by Tom Stettner

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NOTES FROM YOUR RVP

Have you begun planting bulbs this fall in anticipation of next spring's convention in Richmond Virginia? Curtis Tolley of W. Virginia has. I received a note from him and he writes that that is his normal peak bloom season. But, knowing we never have a normal spring, he's keeping his fingers crossed !

Suzy Wert of Indianapolis has begun planting and in a recent e-mail note was lamenting: her back hurts, her knees hurt, her ankles hurt, her hands hurt and her thumb hurts from using the tape label maker. She wondered in her note how it is that the ADS manages to have any 'little old ladies'! I e-mailed back that I had a theory that the ADS began with hundreds of young, beautiful women and kills them off gardening. Suzy has decided that next year she'll average paying about \$35. per bulb and that should keep the quantity to be planted down. Her checkbook balance, too!

The theme of our fall regional meeting seemed to be sharing. First, Barry Kridler and Barry Nichols offered to have us at their garden center and nursery. They were very gracious hosts.

Then an unexpected letter arrived from a new ADS member. His name is Dmitri Kapinos and he's from Moscow, Russia. Currently he lives and works in Cambridge, Ohio. He wanted to take part in our meeting and offered to prepare a short report about growing flowers in Russia, private gardens and flower exhibitions. Eleven months in this country and Dimitri gives an interesting talk, in English, on gardening. Very courageous.

Finally, those who dug bulbs this summer put some aside for the exchange. It is our members generosity that makes this so much fun. New members always look shell-shocked. Don't you enjoy the look on their faces?

I enjoyed seeing you there !

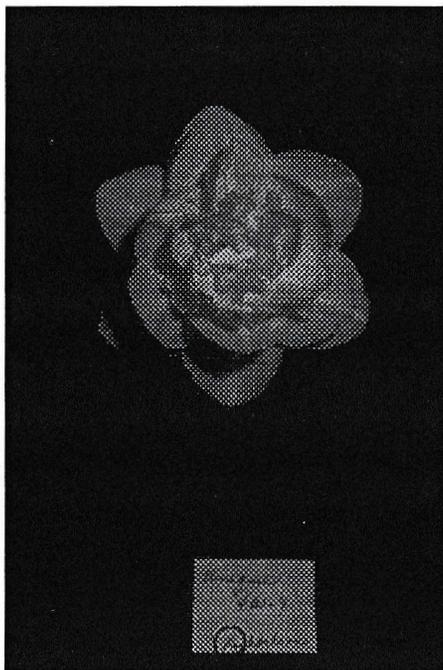
Linda

1997 WISTER AWARD WINNER - RAPTURE !

The Wister Award of the ADS is given annually to a daffodil that is a good garden performer in all parts of the country and readily available. This award is named for Dr. John C. Wister, a gardener of international reputation. He played a major role in spreading interest in the modern daffodil.

Rapture was bred by Grant E. Mitsch. It is a 6 Y-Y that conforms to the true cyclamineus characteristics : a long, narrow trumpet and a strongly reflexed perianth. The texture is very smooth and has good substance. Its constitution is vigorous and it does send up secondary blooms. It increases well under ordinary garden conditions. In other words, a cultivar that should be in every ADS member's garden !

The Tuscarora Daffodil Group of Chambersburg, PA is offering a limited edition T-shirt featuring Rapture. The T-shirts are white, the design features two open blooms and a bud surrounded by foliage on a blue wash background. The shirts are available in all cotton or a 50/50 blend in sizes M, L, and XL for \$15. and XXL for \$17.. Postage is \$3. per shirt. Send your orders to Mrs. Ann Geis, 2038 Pine Grove Road, Fayetteville, PA 17222. Indicate your fabric choice and make checks payable to the Tuscarora Daffodil Group.



MIDWEST REGION'S NEWEST MEMBERS

Juniors:

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| Cara Dillon | 9110 Westfield Blvd.
Indianapolis, Ind. 46240 |
| Laura Distel | 693 E. 82 nd St.
Indianapolis, Ind. 46240 |
| Susan Feuer | 8033 N. Illinois St.
Indianapolis, Ind. 46260 |
| Caitlin Huxhold | 155 Wellington Rd.
Indianapolis, Ind. 46260 |
| Charlotte Lammers | 1500 E. 77 th St.
Indianapolis, Ind. 46240 |
| Katie Lootens | 7070 N. Pennsylvania St.
Indianapolis, Ind. 46220 |
| Clare Mail | 50 W. 64 th St.
Indianapolis, Ind. 46260 |
| Kelly O'Connor | 401 W. 62 nd St.
Indianapolis, Ind. 46260 |
| Molly Tompkins | 8104 Westfield Blvd.
Indianapolis, Ind. 46240 |

Adults:

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Judith M. Mitchell | 8560 Kugler Mill Rd.
Cincinnati, Ohio 45243 |
|--------------------|--|

WELCOME !

'Unique'

Photo by Tom Stettner

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DAFF NET

From Pat Garrett <garrp0@chmcc.org>

Please tell me—what are horse's teeth? I, (or my div. 11's) may have them without my knowledge. I suppose this shows how much I have yet to learn.

Regards,
Pat

From: Richard Havens <havensr@canby.com>

Dear Pat,

We sometimes use the term "horse teeth" when a bulb splits up into tiny divisions closely wedged together (resembling horse's teeth). Unfortunately, some (but not all) split coronas are prone to this. It makes them increase rapidly, but the divisions are so small, that they often do not bloom the following year—not very desirable!

Elise

From "Stephen J. Vinisky" <stevev@europa.com>

Some daffodils have what is believed to be a genetic propensity for forming foliage and not flowers. The Division 11 in question, 'Dear Love', forms gazillions of tiny bulbs that continue to break up and form more bulbs. Each tiny little bulb puts up one or two grass like leaves and then divides rather than growing larger and producing a flower. Once a cultivar starts to go "Horses Teeth" it rarely stops.

I have about an eight foot row of 'Dear Love' that must have several hundred tiny bulbs. I grew so frustrated one year that I planted several clumps (with goodness knows how many bulbs to a clump) about one foot deep and literally stomped the row flat over the bulbs. The theory was to force it to grow a larger bulb by compacting the soil to hopefully slow offset production. Two years later three flowers were produced. I dug two of these and returned them to a normal row (un-stomped). The next

year these two bulbs reverted to twenty or so growing points with grassy foliage.

Best Regards,
Steve

From ramsay@waikato.ac.nz (Peter Ramsay)

First it was earthing up, now it's horse's tooth. Downunder this phenomenon is referred to as dog teeth! Similar term, same outcome. I have always thrown these bulbs away as I'd been told that they would continue to horse or dog tooth and flowers would never eventuate. Max puts it down to excess nitrogen. I don't grow enough div 11 to have noticed if it's more predominant in them. Elise, should I grow the toothy ones on. If they flower later it certainly is a rapid increase - saves twin scaling!

The weather here has turned COLD. Several nights of minus two, followed by nice days, although plenty of early morning fog too. Nothing has moved for two weeks. I do have one lovely flower - a pink seedling raised by Max which is bred from Dailmanach and closely resembles its parent. Why so early? Max forced some bulbs of Dailmanach and used the pollen on early pinks including some Graham Phillips had developed for the early cut flower market. This is one of the results and has taken several premiers at our early shows. Dailmanach is proving to be a wonderful pollen parent for us.

The seedling won't be premier this year as the first show is still four weeks away. There are plenty of buds and if we get some warm rain our season will be spot on!

DAFFNET

Our price list is almost ready. If anyone on Daffnet wants a copy let me know, with Snail Mail address. Our new releases will include Cover Girl (see ADS Journal cover) and three other seedlings which took honours at the World Convention. E Mail me off line for details.

Cheers, Peter

From "Stephen J. Vinisky" <stevev@europa.com>

Working on my seedling list in the computer brought to mind the split cups.

Rapid advances in breeding form and color have taken place and even if you do not like most of the widely available offerings in the Dutch catalogues, many newer cultivars are available that have both good form and great color. I'll bet that their popularity will continue to grow rapidly as these newer flowers begin to migrate from the specialist bulb growers and find their way into the mass market bulb trade. Below is a very short list of ten of my favorite Division 11's that are suitable for both show and are now producing some very fine seedlings. I'd be most interested to see a list of your personal favorites for showing.

Yellow / Red or Orange:

Bosbigal
Boslowick (my favorite in this color group)
Max

Whites:

Colblanc
Papillion Blanc

Pinks:

Cool Evening (possibly the best show Div. 11 that I grow)

Dear Love (GREAT, GREAT form but goes to "horses teeth" with depressing regularity)

Pink Holly (very deep color in Oregon)

Yellow / Reverse:

Flyer (a beacon in the field that has been described as " a fluorescent yellow and white tennis ball on a stem")

She's Apples

Does anyone know of a decently formed and available W-R to add to my breeding program?

With Best Regards,
Steve

Stephen J. Vinisky
21700 S. W. Chapman Road
Sherwood, Oregon, 97140-8608 USA
USDA Zone 8a - Minimum Winter Temp: 15 deg. F; -
10 deg. C
Phone (503) 625 - 3379 FAX (503) 625 - 3399
e-mail: stevev@europa.com

Of all the things I've lost in my garden, I miss my mind the most. SJV

DAFFNET

From lwallpe@juno.com

Dear Steve:

I particularly like Papillon Blanc. Holds up well and is a good increaser. It's also a good garden bloom. Stands up very tall, maybe 24", well above the foliage. Have you tried breeding with it, either way ?

Pink Holly is literally a traffic stopper. A few years ago, Tom Stettner and I were manning a display at the Ault Park Flower and Garden Show. A single stem of Pink Holly was in a vase on the card table in front of us. You could see them coming at a fast trot across the tent - people who just had to see what that bright pink thing was that just couldn't be a daffodil. I don't know if the Havens sold any extra bulbs of Pink Holly that year, but we certainly gave out their address enough times!

Do you grow Two Tees? I am trying to turn a couple of bulbs of it around and sure hope it is worth the trouble!

Linda Wallpe

From "Stephen J. Vinisky" <stevev@europa.com>

Dear Linda,

I grow very few of the 11b's (the so called "papillion" splits) like 'Papillion Blanc' and have bred with even fewer of the 11b's. I do like 'Papillion Blanc' as it has a good clean, crisp, bright white perianth and cup segments which seems to me to be rather hard to come by in the 11's in general. It was the only "b" mentioned in the list. In my opinion, the "b's" visually look like a failed double from a distance and do not have the same impact as the 11a's so I have mostly used the "a's" for breeding.

As long as I'm pontificating, it does seem to me that Elise Havens and Grant Mitsch have once again thoughtfully anticipated the market and greatly improved an entire Division! Most of the available Dutch cultivars seem to have been bred from either trumpets or very large cups. As a result, the "splitting" of the cup just about covers and mostly hides the perianth segments. By using shorter cupped parents with great color and form, much more of the perianth is visible which (again in my opinion) makes them look more like a daffodil as opposed to a "cup on a stem". Elise showed a highly colored 11Y-P at Hillsboro, Oregon that drew raves from both the public and seasoned exhibitors. We all will continue to see real

exciting advances with superior form and dramatic color in the 11's over the next several years.

When Harold Cross (it's so sad that this talented hybridizer is no longer with us as his vision and dedication will greatly be missed) told me in Portland about 'Twotees' and mentioned the breeding (Precedent x Romance). I was hot in the hunt to obtain breeding stock. I'm not sure that it is yet doing as well as it should in the northern hemisphere. It is a "b" and I thought that based on the parentage, it would be one heck of a flower. Possibly it will settle in and continue to improve. Harold did send a bulb this spring to be turned around for the 2000 convention and a "turned around" bulb or two will be available at the ADS Auction in the Portland Convention in 2000.

With Best Regards,
Steve

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From Richard Havens <havensr@canby.com>

Peter, yes, by all means throw the horse teeth away. As Steve's experience, normally when the bulbs start splitting they don't stop. Years ago, my father had horse teeth in Dickcissel (7Y-W), and he picked out some good bulbs and discarded the rest. He found that helped a great deal, decreasing the amount of splitting.

Linda, it may be that your advertising of Pink Holly was part of the reason that it became so popular! It is one of our best as far as color is concerned.

Elise

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Elise

From "Kirby W. Fong" <kfong@alumni.caltech.edu>

Though it is summer, some of the bulbs I purchased from down under are in bloom. Upon returning from a trip last week I found Turning Point, Alma French, Gweal, and Dear Love in bloom. I'm sorry to hear Dear Love is likely to split into a lot of bulblets since I'd like to see it in its true colors when it is acclimated. It had a pale pink corona which faded to white. Twotees does not split into a lot of bulblets. Sometimes the flower looks like division 2 with tears in the cup rather than division 11.

Alas, after I had acclimated it, it showed some signs of virus this spring so I had to discard it. Alma French is an unregistered white trumpet (or large cup?) from Broadfield's. It is not a new cultivar. Perhaps it is the summer heat, but the trumpets have stayed narrow without flaring as I recalled when seeing it in Tasmania. Turning Point is a reverse bicolor. I got two blooms which had remarkably flat perianths considering the adverse growing conditions. Gweal is a poet.

It faded upon opening so I cannot tell how good it might be. I believe this is an old cultivar. There is a bloom of Possum just opening which appears to have a pale orange rather than pink corona. The heat is obviously too great for the colors to develop. California is obviously not the optimal place for turning around down under bulbs. I have leaves on my N. triandrus capax (loiseleurii?) but no flowers as Steve does.

Kirby Fong
kfong@alumni.caltech.edu

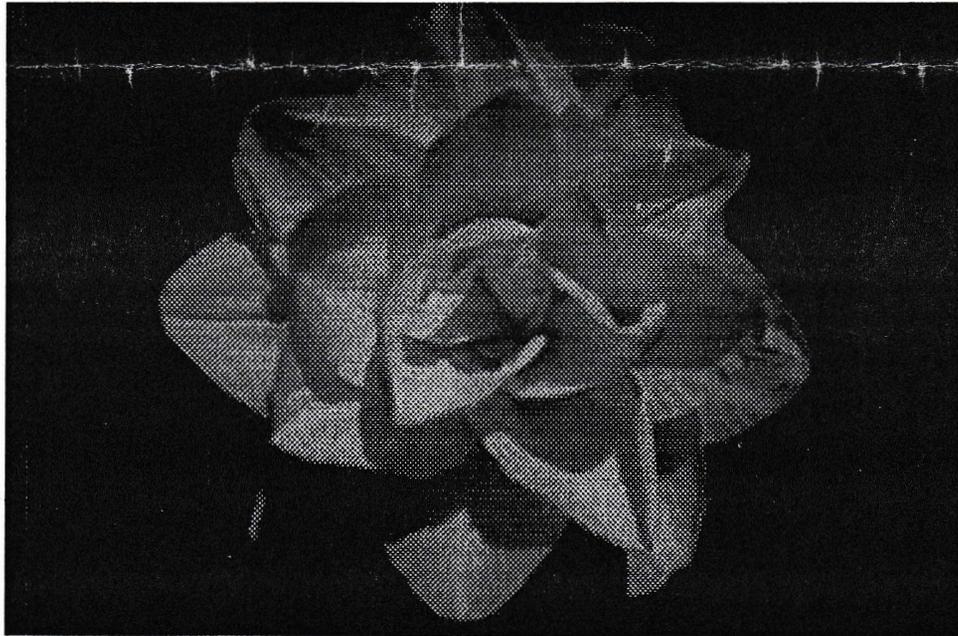
REGIONAL ELECTIONS

The American Daffodil Society has implemented a new system by which all members of a region are to elect their own Regional Directors and Regional Vice-President. This year there is a candidate for Regional Director for the term 1998-2001 and a candidate for Regional Vice-President. Please take the time to fill out your ballot and return it as soon as possible. Simply mark your choice, fold the sheet, staple or tape it closed, and affix a stamp. Ballots are to be mailed to Mary Rutledge, Regional Director. Questions? Feel free to call or write Mary. Her address and phone number are listed on the first page of this newsletter. Your vote is important in making this process work !

Some information about our candidates:

BETTY KEALIHHER is an active member of CODS and has been chairman of their show for several years. She regularly attends the ADS National Convention and wrote the report for last spring's Jackson, Mississippi convention for the June, 1997 issue of the Daffodil Journal.

HILDA DUNAWAY is a longtime member of ADS and the Kentucky Daffodil Society. She has held various offices in the KDS including president and treasurer. She is a student judge.



'Piraeus'

Photo by Tom Stettner
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Betty Kealihher